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California State Fire Marshal Informational Bulletin

VALIDITY OF UL LISTING OF PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

To maintain its required UL listing, a portable fire extinguisher must be serviced and maintained in accordance with the instructions on the extinguisher nameplate, the manufacturer's Service and Owner's Manuals, and applicable provisions of Title 19, Code of California Regulations.

The use of any parts or agent not specifically identified on the extinguisher nameplate or in the manufacturer's manuals, or the use of an agent that is not specifically UL classified for use in recharging the specific manufacturer and model of a fire extinguisher violates the provisions of the UL listing for that fire extinguisher. Local enforcement officials are cautioned to watch for this situation when the proper parts or recharging agent are no longer manufactured or available for a specific model UL-listed fire extinguisher. We strongly recommend that any portable fire extinguisher meeting this criteria be removed from service and replaced as soon as it is identified.

The State Fire Marshal is taking a proactive role to ensure that only properly serviced and listed portable fire extinguishers are in use in California. Any questions or comments regarding the State Fire Marshal's Fire Extinguisher Program should be directed to Mike Waldron at Mike.Waldron@fire.ca.gov. Questions regarding the UL listing service should be directed to Emil.W.Misichko@us.ul.com